

### REMARKS

Preliminarily, the Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for allowing claims 7 and 8. It is submitted that, upon entry of this response, the remaining claims will be deemed allowable as well.

Claims 1-6, 9-16, 19, 21, and 28-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), or in the alternative, §103(a) as obvious over Aloisio, Jr. *et al.* (US 6,215,934). The Examiner notes that “[p]er formulation C (column 7), Aloisio *et al* teaches a primary coating composition having an equilibrium modulus of 58 psi of [sic] 0.399 MPa, which appears to read on the instant equilibrium modulus.” The Applicants note that, in contrast to the presently claimed invention, *Formulation C* includes 2 parts by weight of isooctyl mercaptopropionate (a chain transfer agent). Accordingly, as Aloisio does not teach or suggest a composition having each and every limitation of the present claims, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

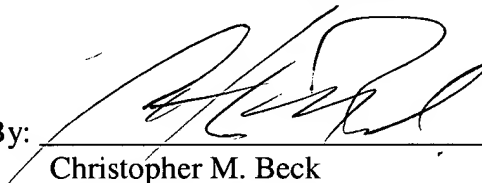
Therefore, all objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Application Serial No. 09/989,703  
Amendment filed August 12, 2004  
Page 14 of 14

Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants at the telephone number indicated below in order to expeditiously resolve any remaining issues.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to counsel's Deposit Account Number 503-121. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,  
MAYER, BROWN, ROWE & MAW LLP

By: 

Christopher M. Beck  
Registration No. 52,603  
Direct No. (202) 263-3374  
Facsimile No. (202) 263-5374

Paul L. Sharer  
Registration No. 36,004  
Direct No. (202) 263-3340  
Facsimile No. (202) 263-5340

MAYER, BROWN, ROWE & MAW LLP  
Intellectual Property Group  
1909 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1101

Customer No. 000043569